



# The GATOR GAZETTE

546th ASMC Newsletter

April Issue-2 pages

## GATOR HAPPENINGS:

Hello from sunny Iraq! The month of April has again brought new experiences upon the 546<sup>th</sup>. Currently, we are supporting a combat support hospital (CSH) in conjunction with a field hospital unit. We are responsible for treating and evacuating both EPWs and American soldiers, as well as providing basic sick call in our own treatment tent for the units around us. We have also set up our dental, lab, x-ray, mental health, and patient hold areas as well. Since the CSH already contained these assets, we basically helped supplement them with our personnel and equipment upon arrival. We have been greatly appreciated so far and it continues to be a great experience for us.

Since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, we have been faced with the challenges of treating patients with wide ranges of injuries. Our ground ambulance crews are the first to encounter the patients after they receive them from the medevac helicopters, upon which they might be faced with anything--gunshot wound victims, spinal injuries, small children, or even deceased personnel. They quickly assess and transport the patients back to our treatment doctors and medics, who respond with immediate training and care. Luckily we have a variety of doctors who specialize in different areas, including a pediatrician, Dr. Soo Kim, and Dr. Bill Lefkowitz, who are able to tend to the children that we sometimes receive. Our medics have been placed in stressful situations and have responded brilliantly, providing quality care to both forces—US and Iraqi. With all of the Iraqi casualties we have seen, it helps to have the assistance of interpreters who speak Arabic and can translate back and forth from the patients to the doctors. We are therefore able to better understand their injuries and, in turn, treat them accordingly.



When we are not treating patients, we find time to maintain our vehicles, replenish our medical supplies, write letters, do laundry, and even manage to play a little spades and football. We also have several superb barbers who have outfitted almost all the males with the newest company trend—baldheads. Our commo soldiers have managed to secure a worldwide DSN phone line, yet getting a line out of the country is very challenging and is not always possible. We have access to showers at our location, and a dining facility that

provides dinner each day, so we are not in bad shape at all.

We are constantly meeting new people, working with different units, and doing things we never thought we would be doing! Professionalism, in the wake of wartime, is what we stand for and what we accomplish with every patient we encounter. We continue to stay safe, alert, and always focused on our mission. As always, we miss you all and hope that this letter finds you safe and well. Until next time, **GATOR PRIDE!**



## COMMANDER'S CORNER--A WORD FROM THE 546th COMMANDER

The war to liberate Iraq has started and the soldiers of the 546th are rocking and rollin!. We were one of the first units to cross the border when the ground war started and I am very proud of the way we have executed our mission. Living in these conditions is a wake up call to most of the unit but everyone has overlooked the hardships we have faced and have driven on. We are set in place for the time being but the future for us is uncertain. Wherever we are called to go, we will get there and provide the best medical care possible for our fighting forces. Keep the mail and the prayers coming. We will be home soon. Gator 6 Out.

## GATOR GLORY: april PROMOTions

Congratulations to the following soldier who was promoted in the month of April:

SPC Matthew Adams

*Your hard work and dedication  
are appreciated!*

### GATOR BIRTHDAYS!

*Happy birthday to the following  
soldiers for the month of April!*

April 6: 2LT Regena Adair  
April 10: CPT John Mercer  
April 17: SPC Robert Worsham  
April 23: SGT Jesse Mirabal  
April 28: SPC Tiana Calloway

### JUST A REMINDER...

Our permanent mailing address is:

Soldier's name and rank  
546th ASMC/30th MED BDE  
APO AE 09331-1271